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LETTER DATED 27 APRIL 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the text of a statement on the events in Kibeho adopted by the European Union at the meeting of the European Council on 25 April 1995 (see annex). This document was transmitted to the Government of Rwanda in the context of an official démarche on the part of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Bernard MÉRIMÉE

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Annex

Statement on the Events in Kibeho Issued on 25 April 1995 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union strongly condemns the acts of violence which caused the death of several thousand civilians in the camp in Kibeho on 22 April during the operation by the Rwandan Army to close the camp. The Union urges the Rwandan authorities to initiate immediately an investigation in order to identify those responsible for the massacre and to take all necessary action speedily.

Events of such gravity can only further impede the return of the refugees and displaced persons, which is an essential condition for national reconciliation and a lasting solution to the Rwandan problem.

The European Union would point out that its assistance for the development of Rwanda is contingent on respect for human rights and progress towards national reconciliation in that country.

It stresses that international aid must be allowed to be used freely for the benefit of the population. The Union therefore calls on the Rwandan authorities to facilitate the task of the international organizations and non-governmental organizations which are working on behalf of the people in distress.